

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re

Patent Application of

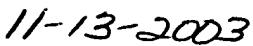
Gary J. Gracyalny, et al.

Filed: March 11, 2002

“VACUUM RELEASE MECHANISM”

I, Jodi Anderson, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the US Postal Service as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date of my signature.


Signature


Date of Signature

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Before calculating the filing fee, please amend the application as follows.

Amendment to the specification begins on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.